REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the outstanding Office Action dated June 28, 2005. Reconsideration of the application in view of the amendments made herein and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

As an initial matter, claim 7 has deleted the "support means" language, and has been clarified to recite that the cleaning element's ends are releasably mounted in the slot. Claim 7, 25, 28 and 34 have been amended to delete the language regarding the ends of the cleaning element being spaced from one another. Accordingly, the section 112 objections should be withdrawn.

Since the Examiner indicated that claim 32 was allowed if rewritten independently, independent claim 28 now includes the limitation of dependent claim 32. Independent claim 34 should be allowable as well, as indicated by the Examiner.

Finally, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the cleaning apparatus includes a slot in the support with opposed ends of cleaning element therein; also recited is that the clamp means is positioned or received in the slot to prevent dislodgement of the ends of the cleaning element. This language, now recited in claim 1, is consistent with the Examiner's statement as to allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 13, 17-19, 24-25, 27-31 and 33-35, all the pending claims are directed to allowable subject-matter.

Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 81.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service via facsimile and First Class mail service in a post-paid envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 9/15 /05.

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Dated: New York, New York September 15, 2005

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Respectfully submitted,
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